

## **Analysis and Results**

### ***Analysis Approach***

Ultimately, the survey seeks to capture the perceptions and attitudes of business owners and managers regarding the general economic effects that median installation may have had on their business. The survey coincided with a recent economic recessionary period across the state and much of the country, and it was understood that it may not be possible for survey respondents to completely untangle the effects of the median installation and recession in their minds. The comparison sites worked well in accounting for the potential effects of the economy on respondent answers.

It should be noted that treatment site 4 (Albemarle Road in Charlotte, NC), along with its comparison site 3 were deleted from the analysis. Observations from the staff conducting surveys in the field quickly noted that based on respondent feedback this particular site was likely an outlier. This is explained further in Tables 3 and 4. Albemarle Road is an east-west arterial that has fully-controlled access into the site. The issue with this site is that the only signalized intersection, the end of the study corridor on the east end, is also the only U-turn location for businesses at this site, while the western section requires drivers to go almost two miles back to the nearest interchange, an unexpected maneuver for a potential customer.

When asked, NCDOT noted that design of the roadway would not allow a median opening at the west end of the corridor. Since the site was so unique, and since it was not representative of the types of access management sites targeted in this project, the team determined that the outlier site should be removed from the remaining analysis.

In summary, after removing sites 3 and 4, there were 566 unique non-vacant records in the final business database along with 101 unique recorded vacancies. As noted earlier, Site 7 (South Boulevard) functions as a comparison site for two treatment sites – sites 8 and 9 – also on